# Zidong Zhang

## RESEARCH INTEREST

SAST (Static application security testing) on Mobile System/Web Applications; Security and Privacy of Mini-Program Ecosystem; BLE Security.

#### EDUCATION

Shandong University

Qingdao, China

Master of Cybersecurity and Information Security; GPA: 86/100

Sept 2021 - June 2024

Email: kee1ongz@mail.sdu.edu.cn

Advisor: Prof. Wenrui Diao

Hebei University

Baoding, China

Bachelor of Information Security; GPA: 3.91

Sept 2017 - June 2021

**GPA Ranking:** 9/110 (Top 8%)

5ept 2017 - June 2021

Boston University

Visiting Student:

Boston, MA, USA Jan 2020 - Feb 2020

#### Publications

 MiniCAT: Understanding and Detecting Cross-Page Request Forgery Vulnerabilities in Mini-Programs Zidong Zhang, Qinsheng Hou, Lingyun Ying, Yacong Gu, Rui Li, Wenrui Diao, Shanqing Guo, Haixin Duan The ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security (ACM CCS 2024) \*Minor Revision

• Living in the Past: Analyzing BLE IoT Devices Based on Mobile Companion Apps in Old Versions Jianqi Du, Zidong Zhang, Fenghao Xu, Wenrui Diao

The 19th International Conference on Mobility, Sensing and Networking (IEEE MSN 2023)

• Identifying the BLE Misconfigurations of IoT Devices through Companion Mobile Apps [Link]
Jianqi Du, Fenghao Xu, Chennan Zhang, Zidong Zhang, Xiaoyin Liu, Pengcheng Ren, Wenrui Diao, Shanqing Guo, Kehuan
Zhang

The 19th Annual IEEE International Conference on Sensing, Communication, and Networking (IEEE SECON 2022)

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

#### QI-ANXIN Research Institute

Beijing, China

Oct 2022 - Now

 $Security \ Researcher \ Intern; \ Advisor: \ Dr.Lingyun \ Ying \ \mathcal{C} \ Dr. Yacong \ Gu$ 

- Mini-Program Analyzing: Built a mini-programs crawler to crawl 130,000 apps and carried out a large-scale automated measurement for routing security vulnerabilities in mini-programs by using hybrid analysis.
- SAST for JavaScript: Built the static automated vulnerability detection for JavaScript-based applications (e.g., mini-programs) using CodeQL.
- Smart IoT Device Security: Analyzed the protocol and verification process of smart locks and implemented the takeover of any of its devices through its companion mini-programs.

## PROJECTS

# • Automated Detection of Mini-Program Vulnerabilities with Hybrid Analysis

- Discovered a novel security vulnerability in mini-programs with their routing implementations for the first time.
- Performed an automated large-scale static analysis of 130,000 mini-programs with CodeQL while using the Xposed Hook for dynamic verification.
- Accomplishments: One paper in submission(ACM CCS '24); 3 vulnerabilities confirmed by CNVD.

# • Analyzing BLE Devices with Older Versions of Companion Apps

- Analyzed BLE devices that could not be OTA upgraded via old version of their companion apps.
- Designed an automated tool to perform large-scale automatic measurements in IoT App datasets to measure the security risks from older versions of apps for devices that do not support OTA upgrades.
- Accomplishments: One paper accepted (IEEE MSN '23); 3 vulnerabilities under CVE review.

### • Identifying the BLE Misconfigurations of IoT Devices through Companion Apps

- Based on the static analysis, defined a set of strategies for detecting misconfiguration in the companion app of BLE devices.
- $\circ$  Designed an automatic analysis tool to detect the BLE misconfigurations based on pre-defined checking strategies from 4,589 companion apps.
- o Accomplishments: One paper published. (IEEE SECON '22)

### TEACHING

• Teaching Assistant

Qingdao, China

- $\circ\,$  Software Security: Instructor: Prof.Wenrui Diao (2021 Fall)
- o Reverse Engineering: Instructor: Prof.Wenrui Diao (2023 Spring)

# Honors and Awards

- DataCon Security Analysis Competition, Vulnerability Analysis Track, Third Place (3/689 teams) Nov. 2023
- The Mathematical Contest in Modeling (MCM), Meritorious Winner April 2020
- National College Student Information Security Contest (CISCN), First Prize of North China Region Sept. 2020
- National College Student Information Security Contest (CISCN), Second Prize of North China Region June 2019
- College Student Information Security Contest in Hebei Province, First Prize October 2019

# Vulnerabilities Disclosures

- WeChat Mini Program Privilege Escalation Vulnerability. (CNVD-2023-75836, CNVD-2023-75837)
- Nankai University Original Vulnerability Reporting Certificate. (EDUSRC-NKU-2019-0074)
- Shanghai Jiaotong University Original Vulnerability Reporting Certificate. (EDUSRC-2019-0217)
- Shanghai International Studies University Original Vulnerability Reporting Certificate. (SISUVD-2019074)
- Alibaba SRC Submission (1 High Severity), Butian SRC Submission (2 High Severity, 3 Medium Severity).

# TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Development:** Python, PHP, JavaScript, Lua, C++, BLE Development (for Android).
- Security tools: CodeQL, Xposed, Frida, Android Reverse(Jadx), IDA Pro, Burpsuite, Nmap, Metasploit.